

## **The year of the FeSTIval season - dramatic increase in STI testing following major UK festivals, Superdrug reveals**

Starting in June, the festival season well and truly kicked off with Mighty Hoopla and other smaller scale festivals. Paired with a sizzling weekend, this resulted in Superdrug seeing an increase of +91% in STI test kit sales the following Monday 5th June, compared to sales data from May.

As festival season was underway Superdrug saw another spike in STI test kits with a +76% increase in sales on 26th June, compared to data from May. This data coincided with Glastonbury weekend which ended on the 25th June.

June 17th and 24th also saw another spike in STI test sales in comparison to May data, with an increase of +79%, coinciding with the festivals Wireless, TRNSMT, and Latitude.

The most popular STI testing has been Genital Chlamydia and Gonorrhoea, with some uplift in the Oral and Rectal Chlamydia categories also. Superdrug Online Doctor recently revealed that STI testing had been overtaken in popularity by contraception services in the last 10 years, following data released for its 10th anniversary. This shows that despite the change in service popularity, festivals and other large scale events will skew the data, especially in the summer months when people are socialising more often.

Chloe Anderson, Head of Healthcare Services at Superdrug, commented “Festival season is always going to be a sociable event, especially with festivals having restrictions in the last few years, this year it was planned to be the biggest season yet. It is a good sign that people are getting tested when they think they’ve got an STI, but I cannot stress enough the importance of safe sex and using condoms to prevent contracting STIs in the first place.”

Dr Babak Ashrafi adds, “The summer season usually sees an uplift in STI testing, but this year we’ve seen even more spikes in STI testing following major UK festivals. It’s also interesting to see Genital Chlamydia and Gonorrhoea STI tests are the most popular, as these are STIs most common in sexually active young people.”

Superdrug Online Doctor provides doctor care whenever you need it. Orders are clinically reviewed within 2 to 6 hours<sup>1</sup>, it offers same day pharmacy collection, fast and discreet home delivery available 7 days a week. From women's and men's health to cholesterol and asthma inhalers, the Superdrug Online Doctor offers services that enable you to request treatment direct to your home, office or anywhere in the UK. For more information please visit: <https://onlinedoctor.superdrug.com/>

**ENDS**

For more information and high-res imagery please contact [superdrug@itsmaven.com](mailto:superdrug@itsmaven.com)

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<sup>1</sup> During working hours